### **Water Conservation Grant Fund Community Forum**

**WHEN:** Monday, January 30, 3:00 p.m. (Arizona time) **WHERE:** Webex webinar. Please register in advance.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

WIFA staff will provide an overview of the Water Conservation Grant Fund (WCGF) and seek stakeholder feedback on how to best meet the purpose of this grant. The purpose of the grant program is to facilitate voluntary water conservation programs or projects that are expected to result in long-term reductions in water use, improvements in water use efficiency, and/or improvements in water reliability.

## What is eligible?

- Education and research programs on how to reduce water consumption, increase water efficiency or increase water reuse.
- Programs/Projects for rainwater harvesting, gray water systems, efficiency upgrades, installing drought-resistant landscaping, turf removal and other practices to reduce water use.
- Programs/Projects to promote groundwater recharge and improved aquifer health.
- Programs/Projects to improve groundwater conservation and surface water flows.
- Landscape watershed protection, restoration and rehabilitation, including through green infrastructure and low-impact development to conserve or augment water supplies.
- Projects facilitating coordinated water management, including groundwater storage and recovery.
- Programs/Projects to reduce structural water overuse issues.

# Who may apply?

Cities, towns, counties, districts, commissions, authorities, and other public entities, as well as nongovernment organizations that focuses on water conservation or environmental protection if it partners with an eligible public entity.

#### How much is available?

The WCGF currently has \$200 million American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. A single water conservation program grant maximum is \$3 million, a single water conservation project grant maximum is \$250,000 and a 25% match is required.

## **Next Steps**

- Attend WIFA's webinar January 30<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 P.M. to hear more about the fund, have questions answered, and provide stakeholder input. The webinar will be recorded and posted on WIFA's website here: Water Conservation Grant Fund (azwifa.gov).
- Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) anticipated to be released mid-February 2023. The FOA will include more information about the grant including goals, deadlines, eligibility, reporting, and how to apply.
- Prior to the release of the FOA WIFA encourages interested parties to review <u>Arizona</u>
   <u>Revised Statute 49-1332</u> and <u>Arizona Revised Statute 49.1334</u> for more information on the grant purpose and evaluation criteria.
- Sign up for WIFA updates, newsletters, funding program updates, and funding announcements. Use the following link to sign up: <u>Water Infrastructure Finance</u> Authority of Arizona (govdelivery.com)

Public comments can be submitted at this forum or by email to WCGF@azwifa.gov.